GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2985
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE AT PORTS
Mahato Shri Narahari

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is losing billions of dollars in export revenues due to lack of cranes to load foodgrains into ships at major ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether almost 40 percent of India`s agricultural exportable surplus items are suffering due to inadequate infrastructure for transportation; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a &b) The export of food grains is effected only through 4 Major Ports namely Mumbai, Kandla, Tuticorin and Visakhapatnam Port Trusts. These Ports are well equipped with adequate number of cranes to handle export cargo.

(c &d) Although available infrastructure is not commensurate with the export potential of the country, all efforts are made to augment various modes of transport to facilitate exports.